JOHN BULL'S INTEREST IN THE ANT-ARCTIC CONTINENT.

SIR CLEMENTS MARKHAM APPEALS TO BRITISH CAPITALISTS TO FIT OUT A PROPER EX-

> PEDITION-BORCHGREVINK'S NOT ALL THAT COULD BE

The world will await with great interest the response which the British people give to the recent appeal of Sir Clements Markham for the money needed for an Antarctic expedition, to be conducted under the auspices of the Royal Geographical Society, of which Sir Clements is the president. For years this organition has been urging upon the British Govment the idea of undertaking such a scheme a naval enterprise. But a few months ago, uch delay, Lord Salisbury replied that in the present situation of foreign affairs the ent was unwilling to spare either a ship or the officers who would accompany such an expedition, especially as both would doubtless get beyond the reach of a telegraph wire m after salling. The Royal Geographical Soelety is therefore, pursuing new tactics now. its annual meeting was held only last month, and Antarctic exploration formed the chief topic of the presidential address.

readers of The Tribune are well aware, two parties have left Europe within the last or sixteen months for the purpose of studying geography and other sciences as near to the South Pole as possible. One of them salled under Belgian auspices in the summer of 1897, and when last heard from, about a year ago, it had reached the Straits of Magellan: but as its commander, Lieutenant Gering his party to send the ship to Melbourne for supplies, and as she has failed to arrive at that port altogether, although she was due last April, it is doubtful whether she ever carried out even the first part of her programme. It seems probable that the Belgica has been imprisoned in Antarctic ice or has met a still more unhappy fate.

The other expedition, fitted out at the expense of Sir George Newnes, and including everal English and Swedish naturalists, left England in the steam whaler Southern Cross last August, and has just been reported from the vicinity of Australia on its way to Cape Adair, Victoria Land. Captain Borchgrevink, a Norwegian, commands this vessel. His general plan, as announced, resembles that of Lieutenant Gerlache, and the next information that ostralian port next spring, when the Southern oss puts in for coal and food, preparatory to sturn to Victoria Land for her party.

sort, and the reputation of Great Britain is so prolyed, that no expedition should start out from England that has not had the benefit of the utmost wisdom of experts in polar re-

pride in this matter is that the Germans are maturing plans for Antarctic exploration, and before long will doubtless dispatch a thoroughly equipped expedition to the continent that surfounds the South Pole. It can hardly be made ady next summer, but that it will go a year is row regarded as a practical certainty. The Germans will have the counsel of the men best qualified to advise them, too. Sir Clements insists that Great Britain has been foremost in exploration in all other fields hitherto. and declares that if his fellow-countrymen hold back now and let the Germans go alone their

moneyed men of England. Sir Clements laid newly explored shores. In 1829 a British dis-tiller, Felix Booth, equipped a party under Sir John Ross for the invasion of the region around Felix," after him, and a gulf near by also bears Booth a baronet. This last chapter of history, and the handsome backing which Mr. Harms worth has recently given to Arctic research, so to prove that the patriotic adventures of the Elizabethan age and their patriotic patrons have worthy successors in the nineteenth

finctively scientific body. Professor Michael Foster heartily applauded the sentiments of the president of the Royal Geographical Society. It is hard to conceive of a more tactful, urgent and well-supported effort to enlist private cap-Ital in a scientific enterprise than the new movement in England for Antarctic research and if it does not meet with success in the near future, some time during the present winter, the outlook for a similar revival of interest within the next five or ten years will be poor

## A LUCKY JOKE.

From The Detroit Free Press. "I femember my first case as if it were yester-y," said a well-known physician. "I have every ason to, as it was the beginning of my present actice.

day, said a well-known physician. "I have every feason to, as it was the beginning of my present Fractice.

My father gave me a good education, bought me an expensive library and a fine set of surgical fistruments, and then told me to sink or swim, and set expect anything more from him.

For a matter of six months it looked as if it would be sink.

The nigh hopes with which I had started on my career had sunk to zero when six months went by without a six of a patient upon whom to try my professional skill.

I made a bold attempt at appearing to be very biss, and would rush out of my office at times as if on a case of life or death.

In these hurry trips I invariably made it a like to pass some spot where building operations were going on, in hope that an accident might happen while I was passing that would call for my professional skill.

One day, when I had returned to my office from the state that I hopefully kept hanging on the door while I was awas.

At was a hurry call to attend one John Smith. No address had been given, and I was appailed when I setzed a directory to find that there were several dozen when I setzed a directory to find that there were shall be setzed a directory to find that there were shall be setzed a directory to find that there were shall be setzed a directory to find that there were shall be setzed a directory to find that there were shall be setzed a directory to find that there were shall be setzed a directory to find that there were shall be started to look them up in their order.

However, it was my first call, and I was nearly to the end of my list when a funny sa nearly to the end of my list when a funny shang happened. I arrived at the home of funny thing happened. I arrived at the home of funny thing happened. I arrived at the home of funny thing happened. I arrived at the home of funny thing happened. I arrived at the home of funny thing happened. I arrived at the home of funny thing happened. I arrived at the home of funny thing happened. I arrived at the home of funny thing

NIAGARA COUNTY SHORTAGE.

TREASURER LAMMERTS'S SURETY TO BE CALLED ON TO MAKE GOOD OVER \$46,000.

Lockport, N. Y., Dec. 17.—The Board of Super-visors reconvened at 4 o'clock this afternoon to act on the case of John C. Lammerts, the County Treas The full report of the Committee on Treasurer's Accounts showed that the county depositories had only \$594 on hand, whereas the Treasurer's books call for a cash balance in the depositories of

age, directing the committee to demand the im mediate resignation of the Treasurer and to give notice to the surety, the Maryland Fidelity and Trust Company, of the shortage, and take the proper legal steps to recover the funds which should be on deposit in the proper banks but are missing. An-other resolution was adopted instructing the committee to formulate charges against the Treasure in case of his refusal to resign, and to forward them to Governor Black, requesting the Treasurer's

Lammerts is forty-three years old. Ten years ago he was working as a blacksmith. His small capital was invested in Niagara Falls property, which quadrupled in value. In three years he cleared over \$100,000. From a ward politician he became a factor in county politics and was elected

Buffalo, Dec. 17 .- A dispatch to "The News" from

Niagara Falls says:
"John C. Lammerts, the County Treasurer Ningara, refuses to give out any statement to the public in regard to the alleged shortage in his ac When seen by 'The News' correspondent he said he did not wish to say anything for the present, but hinted that the public would be informed of the entire matter in a short time, prob

ably Monday. to his first term as County Treasurer, and therefore the Maryland Trust Company, his surety in his second term, is alone responsible. It is under stood that the matter between the trust company and Mr. Lammerts is fixed up and that by turning over all his property to the company the company will make good the deficit, if there is one.

"It is quite generally thought no criminal proceedings will be instituted against Lammerts. The County Treasurer has a large amount of real estate which, his friends say, in time will be enough to reimburse all creditors, including the trust com-

THE COINS WERE GENUINE.

REPORTS THAT THE SOUTH HAD BEEN FLOODED WITH COUNTERFEIT SILVER DOL LARS INTRUE

Washington, Dec. 17.-Regarding the rumors which recently have been widely circulated through the Southern Central States, pointing to the circu "Circumstantial reports of the receipt by these coins have attracted attention, particularly in the vicinity of Memphis, Tenn.

'About six weeks ago, when it was reported that counterfeit dollars had made their appearance Division of the Treasury made a careful investigawere shown to them, and in each instance they oris were revived at Memphis, and Secret Service agents were again detailed to investigate. They

sagents were again detailed to investigate. They took the stories in circulation, and one by one they ran down all of the cilized appearances of spurious coins at railway stations, banks, stores and express offices. Not a single counterfeit coin was discovered in the course of the investigation, although hundreds of coins described as counterfeit were seen and handled by the agents.

"The suspected coins were minted at New-Orleans, bore the date of 1890 and evidently have been stored in the vaults of some bank for a long time, as in appearance they are practically new. The report that hundreds of them had been received by Chicago banks and local banking institutions at Memphis was found to be without foundation. One Memphis banker admitted that he had declined to accept one hundred of the coins in exchange for currency, but in the particular instance referred to the refusal was based on the fact that the person who asked the exchange was not a depositor in the bank. None of the railroad agents who were said to have been 'stuck' with the spurious coins had ever seen them.

"An ex-counterfeiter in that section of the country had endeavored to get a number of people to buy counterfeit coins from him, and submitted these genuine coins as samples of what he was able to manufacture, but this undoubtedly was simply a part of a bunce game."

GENS. STERNBERG AND WILSON HEARD.

STERNBERG AND WILSON HEARD.

NEEDS OF THE MEDICAL AND ENGINEER CORPS IN THE PROPOSED INCREASE OF THE ARMY.

was before the House Committee on Military Affairs to-day concerning the proposed increase of the Army. He said that the medical branch of the Army had at no time been adequate, even in peace. Now that it was proposed to expand the Army panded at least threefold. He urged that the most essential need of the medical corps was to have experienced men quickly available for emergencies. The want of experienced medical officers had been the main trouble in the recen, war. He expressed the opinion that the Surgeon-General should have the rank of major-general, although he hardly exgo on until retirement with his present rank. He merely urged it as a matter of proper organization.

campaign was brought up by Mr. Hay, of Virginia, who asked several questions. General Sternberg said that the military situation was responsi-

ble for what occurred.

General Wilson, Chief of Engineers, was heard General Wilson, Chief of Engineers, was heard on the needs of his branch of the service. He kept closely to the work of the Bureau, declining to be led into discussions of the conduct of the war. He pointed out the extent of work done by the Army Engineers, covering not only Army operations, but also the vast river and harbor improvements, also the vast river and harbor improvements, etc.

CANNED BEEF IN ZULULAND.

A TRADESMAN'S EXPERIENCE IN A CHIEF'S

From The Kansas City Star.

Charles R. Rusby, the representative of the Armour Packing Company in Cape Town, South Africa, and T. H. Dolittie, a merchant of the same place, but who until recently was mining near Bulliuwayo, are at the Midland Hotel for a few days. Mr. Rusby was in Kansas City a year ago, but he returned to Africa, arriving there January I.

"During the year," he said, "I have covered my regular territory, 1,500 miles by steamer up the const regular territory, 1,500 miles by steamer up the const and about the same distance in the interior. I travelled overland by train and bullock wagons. My business was, of course, to introduce the products of the Armour Packing Company. Gusiness has been excellent during the last year—about double that of 1897.

"Considerable of the time." continued Mr. Rusby. "Considerable of the last year—about double that of 1897.

"Considerable of the time." continued Mr. Rusby. "To spent in Zuhuland, calling upon the chiefs and natives and trying to induce them to eat our meats rather than "mealle ment." This mealle is nothing more than commeal. They make it into a mush three times a day by boiling the stuff in a pot. All sit around the pot with flat sticks, and after dipping the paddles they lick them clean. "The Zulus live in huts called krasis. These houses are made of sticks and grass, and are of nother generous proportions. There is only one opening, and that is the door, about two or three opening accustomed to the door, about two or three houses are made of sticks and grass, and are of nother generous proportions. There is only one opening accustomed to the door, about two or three opening accustomed to the door, about two or three houses are made of sticks and grass.

"The first time I entered a kraal I remember I felt quite lost. It was pitch and kness. In there and for the first time I entered a kraal I remember I felt quite lost. It was pitch and plant of the finds its way out as best it can bettied to try it. At first he was suspicious of potential patential a

THE LIBERAL LEADERSHIP .- The sensation of the political week has been Sir William Vernon Harcourt's trapdoor exit from the front of the Liberal stage, which has left his party in a brokenwinged condition; and it is very clear from the speeches delivered at yesterday's meeting of the National Liberal Federation that the rank and file are seriously displeased with what is regarded in the light of desertion. The letters of Sir William Vernon Harcourt reveal that a state of intrigue and internal division has existed in inner Liberal circles for the last year. But the Liberal organs and speakers emphatically deny that there was any desire to supplant him. Now the Liberal organs openly give Sir William a piece of their mind. Speaker," as mouthplece of the party, says:

Neither the tone nor the actual language of Sir William Harcourt or Mr. Morley are what we had the right to expect from them. They have been regarded as shining examples, and we are sorry that they have now fallen short of their own reputation.

the party, is even more unkind. Referring to Sir William Vernon Harcourt's letter of resignation,

ne remarked, snappishly: "There is no such office as 'leader of the Liberal

The Liberals seem quite divided on the subject of Sir William's successor, and the tone of their press is marked by an embarrassing conflict of preferences for Mr. Morley, Mr. Asquith and Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, Mr. Asquith, perhaps, having a slight lead, and if he consented to sacrifice his big practice at the bar, which is inconsistent with the duties of the Liberal leadership, he would undoubtedly be selected. Sir William will remain a private member of the party, and as soon as the Liberals come into power he will receive a peerage and practically retire from Parliamentary life. The Irish members of Parliament affect to be

The Liberal wise men for years have been lecturing the Irishmen on the subject of dissension, which they gave as justification for their postponement of home rule. But they completely ignored the beam in their own eye.

highly pleased at the disorganization of the Lib-

eral party. "The Freeman's Journal" hits home

"The Freeman's Journal" then declared that the disruption of the Liberals enormously enhances the power of the united Irish party, "as it prevents such a triumph of the hostile elements in the Liberal party as to render them independent of Irish

IN SUPPORT OF THE CZAR.-The movement or of an international demonstration in support of the Czar's peace conference is taking pract'cal shape in Great Britain, and is attracting much sympathy from the Queen and other members of the royal family, who are said to be aware of the has been summoned to take place to-morrow at It will be presided over by a representative of the Bishop of London. Mr. Stead will explain the views of the Czar and the proposed international movement, and will read letters from A. J. Balfour leader in the House of Commons; James Bryce, Leonard Courtney, the Rev. Joseph Parker, Earl Spencer and others heartily indorsing the move-ment. Mr. Balfour writes:

I see you claim your scheme will draw still closer the honds of union between the English-speaking peoples, promote a better understanding between them and the Slavonic races, and inaugurate an era of international peace. If its effects for man-kind are even a fraction of what you hope, it is surely worthy of international sympathy.

posais.

These proposals, stated briefly, are: First—That there should be declared a truce of God for five years. Second—That, during that period the Governments should not increase their expenditure on armaments beyond the figure stated by them at the conference as the maximum of their needs. Third—That some international agreement should, if disputes should arise between the signatories of this pact, bind them always to invite the mediation of neutral Powers before appealing to the sword.

From the Old Country to the United States there will then ring forth the cry of the man of Macedonia. Come over and help us! What the friends of peace in England confidently calculate upon is that this appeal in the cause of humanity will find the American people ready and able to respond. If so, the grandest demonstration ever made of the peace-loving passion of the English-speaking race will be within our reach. A Joint Angio-American deputation of, say, fifteen men and five women, chosen from the foremost of our race, charged with the mandate to proceed through Europe on a pligrimage of peace to present an address of thanks to the Czur, would rouse the Continent. It would affirm the unity of the English-speaking race and demonstrate that it had both the capacity and the will to act as a unit in the cause of peace. Round the Angio-American deputation would group themselves in the first place in the representatives of the seven small States—Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belsium, Switzerland and Portugal—with an aggregate population of nearly 30,000.00, and with these reinforcements the great international delegation, would have shaken the Continent from centre to circumference.

FRANCE AND ITALY—The Franco-Italian treaty of commerce is to be followed by a visit of

sort, who died on December 14, 1861, was scrupilously observed on Wednesday. The memorial service at the Frogmore Mauzoleum was attended by the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York and the entire royal family, each member placing a wreath on Prince Albert's sar-

Duchess of York and the member placing a wreath on Prince Albert's sarcophagus.

The Queen is enjoying particularly good health at present. She has been busy buying Christmas at present. She has been busy buying Christmas at present. She has been busy buying Christmas at presents to see that we will be point in choosselection. Her Majesty makes it a point in choosselection. Her Majesty makes it a point in choossing presents to see that her gifts are peculiarly suitable to each of her innumerable reintives or suitable to each of her innumerable reintives or suitable. The Princes of York have been visiting the sores in the West End of London, and have frequently been seen gazing in store windows and choosing Christmas purchases.

Society is already discussing the spring Drawing Rooms. The Queen will personally hold one or two, and the others will be presided over by the Princess Christian and the Duchess of Connaught, the Princess of Wales not being available, owing to the Princess of Wales not being available, owing to the fact that she is in deep mourning. Princess Margaret of Connaught, who will be seventeen years of age in January, will be the only royal debutante.

Prince Malik Mansur Mirza Shua, second sen of the Shan of Persia, a young man about nineteen His visit has not aroused particular enthusiasm, in view of the experiences resulting from previous view of Persian royalities. The manners of Prince visits of Persian royalities. The manners of Prince Malik, who is described as a diminutive, weakly

WHAT LONDON TALKS ABOUT. youth, are, however, said to be pleasant, and he | SECONDON TALKS ABOUT. is fairly cultured.

TO CHECK TUBERCULOSIS .- There has been a great deal of talk recently of the need of some widespread action to cope with the increasing rav-ages of Great Britain's national disease, consumption. The Prince of Wales has now summoned a private meeting at Marlborough ilouse to promote private meeting at Mariborough House to promote a war against tuberculosis. The Marquis of Salisbury and a number of famous medical men will take part in it. It is hoped the outcome will be something more successful than the Prince of Wales's wonderful stamp scheme to assist the London hospitals, which proved more or less a flasco, collectors refusing to touch the sumps, as they were not available for postage. The last issue was thrown almost entirely upon the hands of the organizers of the scheme.

MR. LEITER PAYS THE BILLS.-It is announced that L. Z. Letter, of Chicago, the father-in-law of Lord Curzon of Kedleston, the new Viceroy of India, paid for the Indian outfit of Lord and Lady Curzon, who started for India under the and Lady Curzon, who started for India under the happiest auspices, and after a spiendid sendoff from their friends. Lady Curzon enters upon her duties as Vicereine with a trousseau of unprecedented magnificence, while Mr. Leiter presented to Lord Curzon three official Durbar (conference) cloaks of the finest velvet and gold, in pale blue, ruby and white, each with the Star of India in gold and diamonds.

WASHINGTON IN WESTMINSTER .- The question was recently broached of placing a statue of Washington in Westminster Abbey. Dean Bradley now announces that no such proposal has yet been submitted to the authorities, and he is of the opin-ion that it is impossible for the matter to be offi-cially entertained.

YANKEE SOLDIERS AT MANILA .- An interesting letter from a marine on board the British first-class cruiser Powerful, recently at Manila, on the relations between the British tars and the American troops has been published. The writer

"Our men and the Yankee soldiers are awfully friendly. Very few of the Americans were in uniform. They often only had the number of their regiment written on a piece of paper and pinned to their fackets. It was a sight to see them come on board, speaking to everyhody. When we saw them go up to officers without saluting, we felt as if we must drop on the spot. They offered cigar cases to our men, with 'Have a cigar, my boy,' and afterward handed us visiting cards, saying. 'Now, be sure and look us up if you are down our way.'"

THE LOSS OF THE CLAN DRUMMOND,-The awful fate of the passengers of the French Line steamer La Bourgogne was vividly brought home to the British this week by details which are just leaking out regarding the disaster to the Clan Drummond, which foundered in the Bay of Biscay while on her way to Algoa Bay. These details have also served as a warning of the danger, which have also served as a warning of the danger, which has been frequently pointed out, of having a large proportion of Lascars in the crews of British vessels. Great reticence is maintained on the subject, but it appears that the Lascars became panic-stricken and fought like demons. A survivor relates that several Europeans were drowned by being dragged down by the feroclous and frantic Lascar coolles, who lost all discipline. The captain of the Clan Drummond was being hauled on board the rescuing steamer when a number of Lascars grasped the rope and pulled him back, with the result that the captain was drowned. The Maiays also crowded into the boats, which were swamped, their occupants perishing.

HEALTH LAW CRITICISED .- The new law enby making a statutory declaration has been availed by making a statutory declaration has been availed of throughout the country, and is causing serious misgivings and strong protests from the press. Thousands of children have thus been exempted from vaccination. Sir Richard Thorne, the principal medical officer to the Local Government Board, in his official report on vaccination during the last year, announces that one-third of the children in England and Wales have escaped vaccination. He concludes with remarking:

"The country is being prepared for widespread epidemics of smallpox, such as are unknown to the present generation."

It is suggested in order to counteract the antivaccinationists, that insurance companies refuse to issue policies to unvaccinated people.

THEATRICAL NOTES .- The reappearance of Robert Arthurs at the Comedy Theatre after a long absence in the provinces is the only theatrical novelty of the week. His play, "Milord Sir Simth," is a weak musical comedy, but it served to give

Arthurs and the others in the cast, and made a

Arthurs and the others in the cast, and made a brilliant success.

"Jest" is to be withdrawn from the Criterion on Wednesday and Charles Wyndham will close the theatre for a month.

Clement Scott announced this week his intention of retiring from the post of dramatic critic of "The Daily Telegraph." He says he is going on a lecture tour in the United States.

Princess Louise (the Marchioness of Lorne) has promoted a matinee performance, to take place next Monday at the Strand Theatre, in aid of the East End Mothers' Home. In addition to the leading actors and actresses, the Duke of Manchester, the Earl of Yarmouth and Lady Greville are billed to appear.

CONNECTING CEYLON AND INDIA.

THE SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY TO BUILD A

From The Times of Caylon.

From The Times of Ceylon.

Arrangements for the construction of the Madura-Paumban Railway have now been finally made between the Secretary of State and the South Indian Railway Company. The proposed formation of a subsidiary company for the construction work will be intrusted to the South Indian Railway Company itself. The capital required will not, however, be raised by the company in the open market, but will be provided by the Government. The first allotment of funds will be made at the beginning of April, by which time the South Indian Railway Company will be quite ready to commence construction work. The alignment for the proposed railway has been engaging the attention of the Government of Madras for some time past.

Two routes have been under consideration. One route starts from a point on the South Indian Railway main line, north of the Valgal River, a mile or so to the norm of Madura Station; and thence, passing through Sivaganga by a detour involving some nine miles extra length, until the river to its terminus on the sea. The other route leaves Madura Station at its south end, and continues on the south side of the Valgal River to the sea terminus. This latter route is some nine miles extra length, until the river to its terminus on the sea. The other route leaves Madura Station at its south end, and continues on the south side of the Valgal River to the sea terminus. This latter route is some nine miles whorter for all through traffic than the former. In endeavoring to arrive at a decision as to which of these two routes possesses superior advantages, the Madras Government had to consider, first, the interests of the through traffic than the former. In endeavoring to arrive at a decision as to which of these two routes possesses superior advantages, the Madras Government had to consider, first, the interests of the through traffic with Ceylon, interests which undoubtedly demand the adoption of the South bridge in the possible or desirable, in deciding on the location of the line, to influence in on

FRANCE AND ITALY.—The Franco-Italian treaty of commerce is to be followed by a visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples to Paris, and the visit of the Prince of Naples of Na

From The London News.

intie things all round
Mr. Hillver-Where do I come in?
Mrs. Hillver-Where do I come in?
Mrs. Hillver-Oh, the sirls and I are making you a
beautiful hatmark.—(Jewelers' Weckly.

Store open evenings to 10 o'clock. Grand concert by the 71st Regiment Band under the direction of Prof. Fanciulli. Come in the daytime ... come at night -- plenty to interest you

ŏooooooooooooooo

Bring the children to see Santa Claus in his Iceland home on the 4th floor. Mail Orders Pramptly Filled. Catalogue if you want it. Plenty of salespeople to give all courteens attention. Excellent Restaurant.

Special Holiday Sale of Imported Paintings.

As a Christmas present you probably cannot give anything that would be more acceptable than a fine painting. In such work there are no duplicates; and further there is a quality of sentiment attached to paintings by good artists that never clings to goods made in vast quantities. These paintings are not Detailles or Corots, but are of a class of sufficient merit to grace any drawing room. From \$15 to \$60, and are offered

At Special Prices

because they were bought by our European buyer while in Vienna this year at less than one-third their original cost. Some of the most noted German and Austrian artists' work is here, among

Ferstel, Zolli, Stolzner, Gallia, Michal, Exner, Schleicher, Orloff, Kallis, Chwalla, Harold, Ducat, Voldi, Ricardi, Borseodi, Hauser, Cambos, Secola, Olbert, Scari, Pistori, Stifter, Donat, Montreu and others.

You will surely find a painting that will catch your eye and please your fancy. They are all in rich gold frames of approved

designs.—4th Floor, North. Special Sale of Rich Holiday Laces.

Here Monday.

HAND RUN SCARFS of real Spanish Lace, worth \$2 each, at \$1.48.
worth \$2.25 each, at \$1.48.
worth \$2.25 each, at \$1.48.
worth \$2.25 each, at \$1.48.
special at \$2.69.
LACE SCARFS—Real Renaissance Lace Scarfs, ISX54 in., worth \$4.50,
special Monday \$2.69.
LACE DOYLIES—Real Duchesse Lace Doylies, worth \$2 each, special bargain here Monday \$98c.
LACE HANDKERCHIEFS—Real Duchesse Lace Handkerchiefs, actual value \$4 each, special \$1.98.

NEWS FROM THE FAR EAST.

MARQUIS ITO PREDICTS THE SPEEDY COLLAPSE OF CHINA.

AMERICAN PLANS TO CONSTRUCT RAILWAYS MALTREATMENT OF MISSIONARIES.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 17 .- The steamer Empress of India, which has arrived here from Hong Kong and Yokohama, brings the following advices: An agreement has been concluded between the Japanese and Chinese governments for the lease of an anchorage for Japanese vessels at Foo Chow Marquis Ito is said to have recently expressed to Viscount Takashima and Marshal Nozu a very pessimistic view in regard to the future of the Chinese Empire. "There is no man in China who can rescue her from the impending collapse," said the. "The country is so big as to defy all attempts at renovating it." Indeed, the Marquis said tempts at renovating it." Indeed, the Marquis said toward said towar he would not be surprised if he should find a sad fate overtake China within a rather short space

of time, say three years. Harry Frazier, a rallway engineer sout by the Chinese Development Company, of New-York, to survey, plan out and report on railway routes in China, with the object of immediate construction, has returned home, with his assistants. Mr Frazier mapped out roads from Peking to Canton, Shanghal to Woo Suong, and Canton to Kaloon, as far as securing charters from Governors of districts is

even suggested bonuses.

Mr. Frazier says railroads cannot be built without the aid of soldiers. Mr. Frazier leaves here on Thursday for New-York. In Hong Kong, Mr. Frazier says, he met Prince Henry of Germany, who was extremely hostile to the idea of United States citizens building railroads in China.

OUTRAGES ON MISSIONARIES. J. Fleming, an English missionary, has been killed by natives and soldiers at Tsing Ping, ninety miles east of Kuei Yang. The mission house was raided and burned down. There has been no attempt to punish the criminals by the mandarins.

A French missionary has been burned to death at Swatow. The mission was attacked and Catholic at Swatow. The mission was attucked and Catholic crosses and altars destroyed by a mob of a thou-sand Christian-haters. All escaped to the moun-tains but the French priest. The fleeing women tains but the French priest. The heeins women were not pursued, as the priest stood his ground. He was tied to the bedpost and the house set on fire, the missionary being consumed in the flames. At Shan-Tung soldlers raided the German Lutheran Mission. They told the missionaries if they moved out they would not be molested. One Freimuth told them to do their worst. They ran Freimuth through the body and threw him into a creek. He crawled away in the night, and was taken care of by a friendly native until his death.

a creek. He crawled away in the night, and was taken care of by a friendly native until his death.

Fire occurred in the Japanesa steamer Hai Loong on November 25, when near Amoy. Terrible confusion soon prevailed among her two hundred passengers. Many were confined below, and could not reach the deck. The flames were extinguished after hard work at the pumps, but not before two men had been burned to death and three injured.

A Siberian paper says that a syndicate of French anciers has been formed to start Franco-Russian flactories in various parts of Asiatic Russia. The first will be opened at Viadivostock, and among its aims are the following:

Exploitation of Siberian timber forests; the erection of hotels on French models in six of the chiefton of hotels on French models in six of the chiefton of hotels on French models in six of the chiefton of hotels on French models in six of the chiefton of hotels on French models in great Siberian and at various points along the great Siberian Railway, and the construction of a factory for the making of high explosives for mining purposes in making of high explosives for mining purposes in strade of the central towns of Eastern Siberia. A syndicate has also been formed to arrange for strade of Amur and the maritime territories. The Franco-Russian Company "Nord Maritime" has undertaken to connect both ends of the great Siberian Railroad by sea with Dunkirk.

Chinese papers state that two thousand men are to be handed over to Lord Charles Beresford to organize as a nucleus of the Chinese disciplined organize as a nucleus of the Chinese description of those cities to select a thousand men each from the Manchu garrisons of Kiang-Ning (Nanking) and Ching-Chow, near Shasi, and have them ready to be turned over to the sole command of Lord Charles, "to be drilled according to the system of the British Army." It has not yet been determined where the future camp is to be, but probably near Nanking or Chin-Klang.

Alleged Russo-Chinese Treatt.

secret treaty existing between Russia and China is reported to be as follows:
Until the reorganization of the Chinese Army and Navy is completed China shall have the assistance of the Russian Army and Navy for defence in case of emergency. In such case the command of the army and navy shall remain in the hands of Russian officers. The Chinese Government shall make proper pecuniary compensation to the Russian Army and Navy when their services are received. The commander of the Russian Army at Liao-Tung and Port Arthur shall hold himself at the orders

of the Chinese Government, and may be called upon to render assistance at any time.

A dispatch from North China states that since the Russians have begun the work of constructing the railway in Manchuria the country from Kirin to Hunchun is more than ever disturted by "horse bandits," who have been joined by many laborers who had been employed by the Russian authorities but afterward found the work too laborious and preferred pillage to hard work. Though the Chinese troops were unable to quell the bandits, the latter fear the Russians, and take care not to come within range of their rifles.

AFFAIRS IN CHILL.

A NARROW ESCAPE FROM POLITICAL AND PL NANCIAL DISASTER. From The Pall Mail Gazette.

writing from Santiago on the morrow of the arbitration agreement, signed on September 22, one of our correspondents says; "Now that the long-standing dispute with Argentina is in a fair way toward settlement, we shall be able to set about economizing on the enormous expenditure for armaments, and an incubus will be lifted which has been all but sinking the country. Our war-like preparations seem to have been considered in Europe reprehensible, not to say suicidal, and Chill has been recommended to sit with her hands foided and sell some of her expensive ironclads; in response to this benevolent advice, I would quote the Chillan proverb to the effect that 'a madman knows more of his own affairs than a sane man does of other people's.' Our only way to prevent war and to oblige Argentina to accept arbitration was to arm to the teeth and bluff for all we were worth."

Since the foregoing candid opinion was penned the troublesome outstanding Puna de Atacama question has been practically shelved, the Chillan Senate having by an overwhelming majority approved its reference to a joint commission, with appeal to the United States Minister in Buenos Ayres, as exclusively announced a fortnight ago in these columns. The Puna Issue, by the way, is rather of a political than of a purely geographical character, dependent on the interpretation of different treaties, and uncomplicated by 'waster-divide' considerations, for the sufficient reason that water is completious by its absence in the region. The latest tiem of Intelligence from South America, coupled with the continuous fall in the Buenos Ayres gold premium, is undoubtedly the most Important yet to hand, affording as it does practical proof of the subsidence of the antagonism between Chili and Argentina. The decree ordering the mobilization of the Chilian National Guard has been withdrawn, and it is to be hoped that the good example will promptly be followed on the other side of the Andes, thus enabling both republics to enter on the path of retrenhment in the hands of

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

Chadron. Neb., Dec. 17.—The thirty-two prominent cattle men of South Dakota, who were indicated by a Grand Jury in Fall River County, S. D., for manslaughter have been tried at Hot Springs. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty after deliberating fifteen minutes. The case was the outcome of the murder of John Heckman, a well-known sheepman of this city, who was killed last September by a band of cattlemen while moving his sheep into South Dakota.

army of the future. Dispatches have been received from Nanking and Wu-Chang to the effect that from Nanking and Wu-Chang to the effect that the Anachu garrisons of Klang-Ning (Nanking) and Ching-Chow, near Shasi, and have them ready to be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the sole command of Lord be turned over to the Sole command of the British Army." It has not yet been determined where the future camp is to be, but probably near Nanking or Chin-Klang.

ALLEGED RUSSO-CHINESE TREATY.

The Hong Kong papers declare that the reports published of the existence of a secret treaty between the Russian and Chinese governments are perfectly true. It is stated that a large force under Russian officers is ordered to Shanhaikwan. The secret treaty existing between Russia and China is reported to be as follows:

Until the reorganization of the Chinese Army and Navy for defence in case of the Russian Army and Navy when their services are received. The commander of the Russian Army and Navy when their services are received. The commander of the Russian Army at Liao-Tung and Port Arthur shall hold nimself at the orders